

Sobering stories of everyday heroes lost in the line of duty led me to introduce H.R. 2350, Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act, along with my fellow Pennsylvania colleague, Congressman MIKE FITZPATRICK.

This is a commonsense bill that would ease the financial burden of families of fallen law enforcement as well as other first responders by increasing Federal student aid opportunities for those children to pursue a college education.

Every child should have a fair opportunity to pursue a college degree, especially those who have suffered the unimaginable loss of a parent in the line of duty.

I commend the Senate for passing our companion bill earlier this week, and I call upon the House to pass our bill immediately.

DECLASSIFY DOCUMENTS

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Senator BOB GRAHAM of Florida for taking the national lead to declassify the 28 pages about 9/11, when so many Americans were killed. The information is critical to the freedom of America.

Representatives LYNCH, MASSIE, and myself have introduced H. Res. 14. We have over 54 colleagues in both parties who have joined us to say to President Obama: You have the authority—you don't even need Congress—to declassify this information. You promised the 9/11 families that you would do this.

Mr. President, keep your promise to the 9/11 families who are in so much pain. Keep your promise to the American people and let the American people know the truth about 9/11.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CARL WHITMARSH

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege to be able to come to the floor and acknowledge the giants that live among us.

Today I want to honor a giant in my community, the 18th Congressional District, which I have the privilege of representing. That giant's name is Carl Whitmarsh.

If one were to think of those like Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, William Jefferson Clinton, President Obama, and many other leaders who invested in America, you would think of Carl Whitmarsh.

He invested in the process of democracy. He invested, yes, in the Democratic Party because he was known as a democratic activist, but he had a sincere heart, being one of the members of the Texas Young Democrats.

But in the course of being a democratic person and an activist, Carl worked with one of the first African Americans to integrate the Young Democrats in the name of Doris Hubbard. They worked together to say that, in this Nation, we are all equal.

Yes, he was feisty. He was strong. He made us stand up and acknowledge our responsibilities of service. We lost him this past weekend.

I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. Schlett for the great work that they have done to answer his need in the place he lived. I thank the Schletts for all they have done.

Let me thank all of his friends for all they have done. Certainly, he was a friend of Hillary Clinton. He was a friend of mine and a friend of those who now mourn him.

So among those of us who count ourselves as activists, let me simply say that he was a public servant and he believed in helping people.

Let me also give my sympathy to the Oak Forest Area Democrats and all of his friends and family. Because we know that not only is a voice of democracy silenced, but we realize that a person who loved all of us and loved life and was willing to share—that person is Carl Whitmarsh.

May he rest in peace. We have lost you, but not your spirit, your memory, and your legacy.

PLANNING 2.0

(Mrs. LUMMIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, today in the Natural Resources Committee here in the House we heard testimony about how the Bureau of Land Management's Planning 2.0 rule might affect counties around this country that are dealing with Federal lands in their districts.

FLPMA, which is the Federal Land Policy Management Act, is a law that was designed to give local government a lot of input especially in counties where there is a tremendous amount of Federal land.

We heard today from counties that have 90 to 95 percent of their land owned by the Federal Government. They need input into what is going on in their districts. FLPMA contemplated that.

For Planning 2.0, the new proposed rule to change that and perhaps eliminate some opportunities for local governments to have input into Federal land management decisions would be a huge mistake.

I ask the Bureau of Land Management to extend the time beyond the 30 days they granted and allow 180 days for the time that local governments and other stakeholders are allowed to respond to the proposed new rule.

REACHING OUT TO CONSTITUENTS

(Mr. MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, as I often do, I reached out to my constituents to find out what issues are most important to them.

I sent out a survey, and thousands responded. The top three issues on the minds of folks back home are affordable housing, gun control, and police-community relations.

In every Congress since I have been here, I have pushed to raise funding for HUD and NYCHA so that we can renovate housing and increase both the amount of section 8 vouchers and affordable housing units in New York City and this country.

On gun control, I have cosponsored nearly every gun violence prevention bill in Congress, and I will continue to stand up to the NRA and the rest of the gun lobby.

I am keenly aware of the need to improve police-community relations. We need to force an honest dialogue with police and the communities they serve.

So to the folks back home, I want to reassure you I hear you loudly and clearly and I will continue to stay focused on the issues most important to you. Thank you for participating in the survey we sent out. I will continue to fight for you, as I always have.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

OPIOID ADDICTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, for what feels like the first time this year, the House got to work on something that would genuinely help millions of Americans: addressing the opioid crisis.

My home State of New Jersey is a perfect example of this epidemic in both reach and financial impact. Four of every five new heroin users started their drug abuse addictions with a prescription opioid. By one estimate, New Jersey is now home to more than 128,000 heroin addicts.

□ 1645

In the past 10 years, heroin has claimed 5,000 lives in my State, and we fall just short of the top 10 in the percent of healthcare costs we use on those suffering with opioid addiction.

Opioids, both heroin and prescription painkillers, are driving the national